The 1990s It was a bold effort to reconcile the fragmented institutional framework for water resources management, some of which dated back to 1950s. The proposed new law, signed by the mayor and the State Governor in 1999, created the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). The MWD was established to improve the management of water resources in Southern California. The new law consolidated fragmented agencies and provided a centralized framework for water management in the region.

The year 1985 brought a new twist to the history of water supply. It was a public good, and water scarcity...
Scarcity: From Public Good to Commodity

Drought: Science and Politics in Africa

The dependency of our water resources

The drought of 1988-89 was the worst drought in the history of our country. It was one of the most severe and prolonged droughts that have ever occurred in our region. The drought affected all parts of the country, from the northern deserts to the southern savannas. It was estimated that over 10 million people were affected by the drought, and the economic losses were in the billions of dollars.

According to the 1992 report, despite the continuation of the drought in 1993, in which the rainfall was the lowest in 50 years, the situation was not as critical as in 1988 and 1989. However, the drought continued until 1994, and the situation remained critical.

The government's response to the drought was slow and inadequate. The response was characterized by lack of coordination among different agencies and organizations, and by inadequate funding and resources. The government also failed to consider the long-term effects of the drought, and the recovery plan was not effective.

In conclusion, the drought of 1988-89 was a turning point in the history of our country. It highlighted the need for better preparedness and response mechanisms to deal with future droughts. It also demonstrated the importance of prioritizing water resources management and conservation as a means to reduce the vulnerability to droughts.

Kaidu (1969: 243)

"... have the capacity to change the whole way of life...

"... because the people of the country are now more aware of the importance of water resources management...

"... because the government is now more committed to water resources management...

"... because the public is now more aware of the importance of water resources management...

"... because the economy is now more dependent on water resources management...

"... because the society is now more dependent on water resources management...

"... because the environment is now more dependent on water resources management..."
Chapter Base

Nature’s Crisis as a Facilitator for Explaining the...
Building consensus around a crisis posed by nature

...
“One of the main planning parameters for the project will be the minimization of construction time” (YTIEYODAE 1990b: 23). However, the Evinos Dam project proposal was not entirely new. It had been suggested originally as a possible future addition to the plans for Mornos, Athens’ most recent (1969–1981) dam project. Since then, it had been awaiting the right conditions to materialize (Kingdon 1984; Nevearez 1996). Indeed, in 1991, the right configurations prevailed: economic (funding available from the EU Cohesion Fund); socio-environmental (drought presented as water scarcity); and sociopolitical (consensus due to crisis and rising water prices combined with a turbulent political period). It was this socio-environmental configuration that permitted the relatively uncontested and rapid implementation of the old project proposal (Perelman 1979; Rutte et al. 1987). Although preliminary studies for alternative solutions were submitted to the government by environmental NGOs, academics and private engineering companies, they never received serious attention (Proceedings, IB’ Assembly of the Greek Parliament, 11 May 1990). For example, in 1990, a public awareness campaign, combined with the project to seal the sinkholes of the Lake Yiliki Reservoir was proposed in Parliament as a possible alternative solution:

On 23/1/90, we [the socialist party] asked for a campaign to raise public awareness regarding the irrational use of water, and the implementation of the project for sealing Lake Yiliki, which would provide a definitive solution to the problem of water supply for both the Greater Athens Metropolitan area and for the irrigation of the Kopaida area.

(Proceedings, IB’ Assembly of the Greek Parliament, 11 May 1990; emphasis mine)

Still, all alternative projects that were proposed were rejected. The government judged that the time it would have taken to assess, evaluate and implement these projects would be prohibitively long, given the supposed urgency imposed by the drought (Koutsogiannis et al. 1990; Kallergis and Moraiti 1991). An interviewee from the higher ranks of the Ministry of Development established a clear link between the political character of large-scale infrastructure projects and the swift character of the implementation of such projects:

One problem when carrying out studies on water resource management during a drought period is the high cost and the time-consuming character of the studies themselves, due mainly to lack of primary data. Therefore, decisions for large scale infrastructure projects, which are clearly political, are normally favoured as the quickest and “cheapest” (in the short term) solutions.


Thus, once again, a crisis posed by “natural” causes was the main justification for the implementation of the Evinos project.

Building consensus around promises of development

A second element for building public consensus for the dam project that was as important as the threat fabricated around a “natural” crisis was the political promise given to the construction industry and to the local community for major capital investment and economic growth that the project would bring. Since the end of World War II, state support for the construction industry in Greece has been an efficient and popular way of producing short-term economic growth, mainly because of the economies of scale produced by this industry and the relatively large number of people involved (Leontidou 1990; Filippidis 1990; Giannakourou 2000; Kafkalas 1985; Mantouvalou and Marthia 1982; Vaiou et al. 2000). During the post-war period, the development of the water supply system of Athens played a pivotal role in supporting urban expansion and land speculation. The urban sprawl that occurred between 1950 and 1970 could not have happened without the expansion of the water supply network, and of the resource base, both of which were either funded or heavily subsidized by the state. Not only the supply network, but also the city’s ecological footprint grew dramatically during this period. Water supply was not only a guarantor for urban sanitation; it also became a determining factor for land speculation. By securing water supply for new urban development schemes, the state in effect subsidized private developers and assisted in their land speculation practices. The construction industry maintained this pivotal position in the Greek economy in recent years. As K. Koutlas, vice president and management director of the PROODeYTIK construction company (contractors of the Thissavros dam for the Electricity Company of Greece), put it:

The Greek construction industry has taken on a strategic role in the economic development of our country, since it is the sector which provides the link between the inflow and the diffusion of European funds in the Greek economy. . . . The implementation of big infrastructure projects is linked to high-value cash flows into the Greek productive activities, which reinvigorate a series of activities in a broad range of economic sectors . . . In order for the above efforts to continue to take place, it is necessary to sustain the regular flow of European funds from the 2nd and the pending 3rd European Support Framework . . . These projects provide jobs for thousands of Greeks and their completion will permit further development of the country’s resources . . . and in general the promotion of the image of our country . . . The benefits will be reaped by the country as a whole.

(TEXNIKA 131, “Public works in Greece”, October 1997: 23)

The Evinos project belongs precisely to the category of projects to which Koutlas refers in his interview – projects that will sustain economic growth, provide jobs and keep the economy ticking. Thus, despite the anticipated negative impact of the project on agriculture, cattle-grazing and natural habitats in the areas through which the river naturally flows, the proposed damming works did not raise as much opposition as one might have anticipated. Despite a militant Greek agricultural
CONCLUSIONS: A RESTORING THINGS TO THEIR NATURAL STATE

Sydney's water supply system is a key component of its overall environmental sustainability, ensuring the city's residents have access to clean drinking water. The system is designed to meet the current and future needs of Sydney's population, with a focus on sustainability and efficiency. The system includes a network of reservoirs, treatment plants, and distribution networks, which work together to provide a reliable and safe water supply. The system is regularly monitored and maintained to ensure its optimal performance, with ongoing investments in new technologies and infrastructure aimed at improving water quality and reducing environmental impact. The success of Sydney's water supply system is evident in the city's excellent water quality and the high level of public satisfaction with the service. As the population grows and demands for water increase, the system will continue to evolve, with ongoing research and development aimed at finding innovative solutions to meet these challenges. The system is a testament to the city's commitment to environmental stewardship and the provision of high-quality water for its residents.
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ENDNOTES


ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Economists, politicians, and thinkers of all walks of life emphasize the importance of information on human beings and the environment. This chapter focuses on the role of information in the decision-making process. It discusses the importance of information in the context of economic, political, and social decision-making processes. The chapter also examines the impact of information on policy-making and the role of information in shaping public opinion.

However, the discussion is not confined to the role of information in any one sector. The chapter also examines the role of information in the context of the environment, focusing on the role of information in the context of environmental decision-making processes. It discusses the importance of information in the context of environmental decision-making processes and the role of information in shaping public opinion on environmental issues.

The chapter concludes with a discussion of the role of information in the context of the economy, focusing on the role of information in the context of economic decision-making processes. It discusses the importance of information in the context of economic decision-making processes and the role of information in shaping public opinion on economic issues.
metabolic accumulation and the community level. From one perspective, it is clear that these processes are influenced by the interplay between metabolic accumulation and the community level. From another perspective, these processes are influenced by the interplay between metabolic accumulation and the community level.

Introduction

Alex Lotzus

Durbans Watercape

The metabolic processes of capital accumulation in

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